

the latter, though it is only two days ahead of the night last agreed upon. Cross says he will not be recovered by that time.

Evidently Leach has his physique timed to the minute and knows the day and hour when he will be recovered. The fight may be scheduled for Dec. 2, but it would not be surprising to hear in a day or so that it has been entirely called off.

Manager John McGraw, once or twice, has remarked, "Give me a natural hitter and I'll make him a ball-player." To be a natural hitter is demanded of a man who would be a big leaguer, by the little Napoleon.

Very few good hitters have been manufactured, although there is the occasional exception, like Clyde Milan.

It is notable that the Giants rank low as fielders, but in the standing of the clubs, which is what counts,

the team is generally there or thereabouts.

Batting's cardinal sin is to "pull away." Many a youngster goes to the big league full of ambition, and performs like a Jack Glasscock in the field, after which he is given the acid test.

"Take a turn at bat," says the manager. The chances are the manager has ordered the pitcher to "shoot a fast one at his bean." If the batter steps back, or in the idiom of the game, "puts his foot in the water bucket," he signs his death warrant.

But if he stands up to the plate, or steps out to meet the ball, pulling aside only at the last moment, when he sees the ball is not going to "break," he gets the O. K. of the boss and his education begins.

McGraw has made stars of many a nervy batter who handled himself



FRANK CHANCE  
— AND —  
ROGER BRESNAHAN.